



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

**Date:** 7/31/2008

**GAIN Report Number:** AR8030

## Argentina

## Rasin

## Annual

## 2008

**Approved by:**

David Mergen  
U.S. Embassy

**Prepared by:**

Francisco Pirovano

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**Report Highlights:**

Calendar Year (CY) 2009 raisin production is forecast at 30,000 metric tons (MT). Exports are forecast at 27,200 MT. Imports are almost non-existent. Domestic consumption is stable at around 10 per cent of the production.

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Includes PSD Changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
Buenos Aires [AR1]  
[AR]

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**Table of Contents**

<b>Section I. Situation and Outlook.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Production areas .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Production .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>The drying process .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Consumption.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Trade.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Imports requirements .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Prices .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Varieties .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section II. Statistical Tables .....</b>	<b>6</b>

## Section I. Situation and Outlook

### Production areas

Ninety five percent of Argentine raisins are produced in the Province of San Juan, which is located alongside the Andes Mountains in western Argentina. According to official numbers, 3,500 hectares are currently planted with raisin grapes in Argentina of which San Juan province accounts for 2,400 hectares, Mendoza 670 hectares, and La Rioja 480 hectares. Since this is a very dry region, with annual average rainfall of 8 inches or less, all plantations are irrigated. The main source of water is melted snow from the Andes.

### Production

In CY 2009, Grape production for raisins is forecast to grow to 66,000 MT due to better yields. CY 2008 grape production dropped with regard to CY 2007 due to lower yields in the main production area of San Juan province.

Production of grapes for raisins in metric tons (MT)				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	59,100	70,600	60,000	66,000
San Juan	56,500	66,800	56,000	63,000

### The drying process

The drying process in Argentina is mainly by utilizing the sun to dry the grapes. The grapes are laid on cement floors where they are sun dried for a 10 to 20-day period depending on the grape variety. The final product has a moisture content of 15-20 per cent. Afterward, vegetal oil is applied to them. The raisins may be packed in 30 pound cases in bulk or in clusters. The Secretariat of Agriculture of Argentina has established a protocol for certified raisins that includes HACCP as part of the process.

Production of raisins in metric tons (MT)				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	26,600	32,000	28,000	30,000
San Juan	25,270	30,400	23,560	28,500

### Consumption

Domestic consumption in metric tons (MT)				
	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	2,600	3,000	2,800	2,800

### Trade

CY 2009 raisin exports are forecast to increase to 27,200 MT. CY 2008 raisin exports are expected to decrease to 25,200 MT due to the lower grape production in CY 2008. Registered raisin exports for CY 2007 reached 29,000 MT, 34 per cent more than in CY 2006. CY 2006 export volume was 22,000 MT valued at US\$27 million. In CY 2007, export values increased as a result of high international prices.

Argentina Export Statistics						
Commodity: 080620, Grapes, Dried						
Calendar Year: 2005 - 2007						
Partner Country	2005		2006		2007	
	USD	Quantity	USD	Quantity	USD	Quantity
World	27,133,916	22,006	24,481,278	19,121	36,812,473	28,936
Brazil	12,420,338	10,310	14,989,258	11,658	19,064,957	15,089
United States	6,064,789	4,729	3,098,494	2,245	8,963,320	6,995
EU	3,405,917	2,622	2,701,120	2,075	3,097,314	2,300
Taiwan	777,863	605	953,728	714	1,392,410	1,021
Dominican Republic	595,090	482	759,305	638	739,820	601
Colombia	288,337	213	20,3198	159	599,688	495
Venezuela	434,056	311	114,750	75	560,533	406
Chile	1,383,646	1362	490,565	610	508,668	488
Russia	473,920	315	389,829	303	493,969	379
Costa Rica	358,369	290	240,770	181	329,281	253
Others	931,591	767	540,261	463	1,062,513	909

Virtually no imports of raisins, with the exception of 50 MT from Chile in CY 2007, have been registered in the last four years.

### Imports requirements

Raisins 0806.20	
Outside the Mercosur Area	
Import Tariff	10 %
Statistical Tax	0.50%
Export Tax	5.00%
Rebates: Cases containing between 2.5 kg. and 20 Kg.	4.05%
Cases with 2.5 kg. or less	6.00%
Inside the Mercosur Area	
Import Tariff	0.00%
Statistical Tax	0.50%
Export Tax	5.00%
Rebate: Cases containing between 2.5 kg. and 20 Kg.	4.05%
Cases with 2.5 kg. or less	6.00%

## Prices

Prices Table			
Country	<i>Argentina</i>		
Commodity	Raisins		
Prices in	US\$ FOB	per uom	MT
Year	2007	2008	% Change
Jan	1244	1309	+4.96
Feb	1470	1398	-5.15
Mar	1248	1523	+18
Apr	1264	1607	+21
May	1214	1653	+26.6
Jun	1234	0	0
Jul	1294	0	0
Aug	1267	0	0
Sep	1277	0	0
Oct	1217	0	0
Nov	1295	0	0
Dec	1385	0	0
Exchange Rate	3.05	Local Currency/US \$	
Date of Quote	07/18/2008	MM/DD/YYYY	

## Varieties

The main varieties are: Sultana, Thompson seedless, CG351, Imperial Seedless, Flame, Superior Jumbo, Muscat and Black Corinth.

## Section II. Statistical Tables

Raisins Argentina	2006			2007			2008			
	2006/2007			2007/2008			2008/2009			
	Market Year Begin: Jan 2006			Market Year Begin: Jan 2007			Market Year Begin: Jan 2008			
	Annual Data Displayed		New Post	Annual Data Displayed		New Post	Annual Data Displayed		Jan	
			Data			Data			Data	
Area Planted			3500			3500			3500	(HA)
Area Harvested			0			0			0	(HA)
Beginning Stocks						0			0	(MT)
Production			32000			28000			30000	(MT)
Imports			0			0			0	(MT)
Total Supply			32000			28000			30000	(MT)
Exports			29000			25200			27200	(MT)
Domestic Consumption			3000			2800			2800	(MT)
Ending Stocks			0			0			0	(MT)
Total Distribution			32000			28000			30000	(MT)
TS=TD			0			0			0	
Comments										
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Comments To Post										